

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed May 29, 2007 wherein claims 26-29 were rejected. Claims 1-25 have been withdrawn from consideration. Independent claim 26 has been amended herein. Dependent claims 30-33 have been added. Claims 26-33 are currently pending.

Specification and claim amendments

Applicants have amended claims 26 herein. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Claim rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 26-29 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Iverson (US 3,936,645). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection to claims 26-29 as being anticipated by Iverson for the following reasons.

Independent amended claim 26 recites in pertinent part:

An anisotropic scintillator for use in an imaging system comprising a three-dimensional pattern formed in said scintillator element utilizing a pulse laser. The pulse laser alters a first optical property at a plurality of locations at discrete locations in said scintillator element of said plurality of locations such that said three dimensional pattern is comprised of a second optical property and said three dimensional pattern is formed of localized crystalline regions in otherwise non-crystalline material. Support for this feature can be found on page 5, par 0017 of the present specification.

The patent to Iverson relates to a cellurized luminescent structure where modification starts at the top of the block and moves downward. Iverson does not disclose nor suggest modifying at discrete locations which can control ho light is spread through the block so as to localized crystalline regions in otherwise non-crystalline materials as recited in amended independent claim 26.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that independent amended claim 26 and claims 27-33 by virtue of their dependency on claim 26 are not disclosed or suggested by Iverson.

New dependent claim 30 that the first optical property of said scintillator element is converted to a second optical property without removing material from said scintillator element. Support for this feature is on page 4, par. 0015 of the present specification. This feature is not disclosed nor suggested by Iverson, which in fact requires the removal of material from the scintillator element. (See Iverson, Col. 6, lines 29-33).

New dependent claim 31 recites that the first optical property of the scintillator element is converted to a second optical property without adding material to the scintillator element. Support for this feature is on page 4, par. 0015 of the present specification. This feature also is not disclosed nor suggested by Iverson, which in fact requires the adding material to the scintillator element (See Iverson Col. 6, lines 58-68).

New dependent claim 33 recites that the three-dimensional pattern formed of localized crystalline regions in otherwise non-crystalline material is smaller than the focal spot of the laser. Support for this feature can be found on pages 5-6, par. 0018 of the present specification. This feature is not disclosed nor suggested by Iverson

In view of the foregoing amendments and for the reasons set out above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Please charge our deposit account # 07-0868, for a one- month extension for application No. 10/632,261.

Respectfully submitted,

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